

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3532

SECDEF

JCS

USNMR SHAPE

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AMEMBASSY BONN

CINCSAC OFFUTT AFB NB

INFO HQ 3AF RAF MILDENHALL

S E C R E T LONDON 12071

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, NATO, UK, US, GW

SUBJ: BUFFALO GRASS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS INFORMALLY

SOUNDED OUT

REF: (A) SECDEF 012341Z AUG 75; (B) USCINCEUR 022107Z

AUG 75

1. WE HAVE INFORMALLY SOUNDED OUT FCO CONCERNING HMG'S VIEW ABOUT ADVISABILITY OF MAKING A PUBLIC STATEMENT PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF THE TRAINING EXERCISE. FCO IS OF THE OPINION THAT A LOW KEY STATEMENT IN THE RAMSTEIN AREA IS ENOUGH. AS FAR AS THE FCO IS CONCERNED, THEY PREFER THAT NOTHING BE SAID ABOUT THE EXERCISE AT ALL UNLESS THE PROPOSED FLIGHT PATH IS ACROSS THE BRITISH ISLES "AT LOW ALTITUDES".

2. RE REFTEL A, QUESTION 6 AND ANSWER, RECOMMEND RECASTING AS FOLLOWS: Q. HAVE B-52 AIRCRAFT BEEN FLOWN BEFORE IN/OVER EUROPE? A. B-52S HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE RAF ANNUAL BOMBING COMPETITION WHICH DID INVOLVE LOW LEVEL FLIGHT AND SIMULATED BOMB DELIVERY IN THE UK. HOWEVER,

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ROUTINE B-52 TRAINING MISSIONS SUCH AS THE ONES NOW PLAN-

NED HAVE NOT BEEN FLOWN IN EUROPE BEFORE.

3. WE DO NOT YET HAVE HMG'S OFFICIAL CONCURRENCE RE
BUFFALO GRASS, BUT FCO AGREES IN PRINCIPLE. IS IT PLANNED
THAT THE TRAINING MISSION FLIGHT PATH INVOLVES HIGH OR
LOW LEVEL FLIGHT OVER UK TERRITORY?

RICHARDSON

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NNN

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